



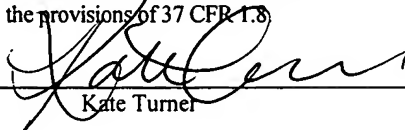
PCT  
IAP6 Rec'd PCT/PTO 21 FEB 2006 1732

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re United States Patent Application of:	)	Docket No.:	4280-109
Applicants: VOLLRATH, Friedrich Wilhelm, et al.	)	Conf. No.:	7884
Application No.: 10/549,779	)	Art Unit:	1732
Date Filed: September 19, 2005	)	Examiner:	Not Yet Assigned
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR FORMING MATERIALS	)	Customer No.:	23448

**FIRST CLASS MAIL CERTIFICATE**

I hereby certify that I am mailing the attached documents to the Commissioner for Patents on the date specified, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313, First Class Mailed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.8

  
Kate Turner

February 15, 2006  
Date of Mailing

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN  
U.S. PATENT APPLICATION NO. 10/549,779**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO/SB/08A. One copy of each foreign reference is enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

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Respectfully submitted,



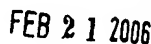
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**Enclosures:**  
**IDS Form [ 1 pg.]**  
**Foreign Patent References [ 54 pgs.]**

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet

1

of

1

<b>Complete if Known</b>	
Application Number	10/549,779
Filing Date	September 19, 2005
First Named Inventor	Vollrath et al.
Art Unit	1732
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	4280-109

[illegible]

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> ( <i>if known</i> )				
	AB	EP - -1277857-- A1	01-22-2003	Asakura, Tetsuo		
	AC	WO - -01/38614-- A1	05-31-2001	Vollrath, Friedrich, et al.		

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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